

## PALACE OF A CALIPH

DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT CASTLE  
AMRA IN ARABIAN DESERT.

It Was Built by a Grandson of the Famous Caliph Al Rashid Twelve Hundred Years Ago.

YOUNG PRIEST THE DISCOVERER

SAVED FROM INJURY THROUGH SUPERSTITION OF NATIVES.

Fine Wall Paintings and Other Objects of Oriental Art in Good State of Preservation.

After trying in vain four times Dr. Alois Musil, the biblical scholar and secretary to the prince-archbishop of Olmutz, has at last succeeded in finding the palace of Harun al Rashid's grandson, Caliph Ahmed, in the north Arabian desert.

Castle Amra, long famous in Oriental lore, was a subject of various expeditions in past centuries, but the triumph of rediscovering it was reserved for a young priest fitted for the work by rare perseverance, intrepid courage, and a vast knowledge of Arabian geography not recorded on any map.

Dr. Musil succeeded in locating the palace on his fifth journey of discovery, but before reaching there was captured by hostile tribes, thrice wounded and once buried alive in an ancient tomb, from which he escaped only by a miracle. But in his letter to his princely superior and friend, he mentions nothing of these personal adventures, confining himself, with characteristic modesty, to report the things accomplished only.

The additional facts we have from his companion, Colonel Minich, who accompanied the doctor on his last trip as representative of the Austrian Academy of Science.

The academy fully indorses Dr. Musil's

port and his chief speaker, Prof. Joseph Kossier, is now preparing a lecture on the subject, which will be brought to the attention of scientists in all parts of the world.

DISCOVERY OF THE PALACE.

Below is a transcription of the report sent from Jerusalem to Dr. Theodore Kohn, prince-archbishop of Olmutz. He writes: "I have the honor to report to your Eminence that Castle Amra, the famous pleasure palace of the ancient Caliphs, was discovered and fully explored by your Eminence's servant."

"As previously reported, the undersigned began the search for this famous monument of ancient architecture six years ago, being unfortunate enough to miss the object of his various travels on four successive trips. I first searched the unknown regions of the land of the Moabites and proceeded toward Petra, following the great eastern Roman road. Next I investigated the territory of Palmyra and a year later continued my vain search in the countries located by Egypt on the west and Vab Sirham on the east. Finding no trace of the palace thereabouts, I turned north, traveling from the south end of the Dead sea up to the shores of the Red sea.

"My fourth trip led me to Mount Sinai, where I prayed long and fervently that God might be my guide in this undertaking as in all others. My prayers were heard, for, falling in with a Bedouin tribe on my way back, the shepherd, the famous Talal, promised to lead me to the spot if I returned at the opening of the next traveling season. The chief told me that the great palace was still preserved in its entirety—walls, gates, roofs and all—for which happy state the superstition of the desert people is responsible, as the natives, for time immemorial, shunned the big pile, believing it to be the abode of heathen ghosts liable to strike dead any living creature crossing the threshold.

"Said the sheik: 'Though Castle Kossier Amra is known to thousands of our people by sight, and though the very Nomad tribes were aware of its existence for centuries, no foot of the faithful ever stepped within its marble halls. We lie outside while the sun is burning holes in our skin, or at times when the fierce wind threatens to unhorse the rider, but shelter in its accursed walls we seek not. God forbid!' The chief told me, further, that the walls of the palace were adorned with most magnificent pictures that might be seen through the unglazed window openings.

"Colonel Minich, the painter of the Vienna Academy of Science, and I started from Jerusalem for Madaba, which is the last station on this side of the Pilgrim road, on April 25. Immediately behind Madaba the north Arabian desert begins. Chief Talal was on hand at the rendezvous to the southeast of the station and received us most kindly. But he had bad news. His a dozen Bedouin tribes, among them, the Beni Salma, were on the warpath, and skirmishes, murders and other deeds of violence and vengeance were the order of the day. As a precaution against robbers we, therefore, assumed native dress and hired the chief's brother and a guard of four to attend us on our journey. Our caravan, when it finally started, was seven heads strong, each man superbly mounted.

"We carried four and a half dried cheese butter, ten tons of water, the latter in two large bags, but had neither meat preserves, tents nor bedding. During the first few days the desert was indeed deserted, but later the tracks of four camels, apparently bound for the neighborhood of Amra, were discovered. Our route led through a terrible wilderness, the ground striped like a zebra; each stretch of white sand, ten feet or thereabouts broad, edged by one of black, and vice versa. As we proceeded further north, though, the white stripes narrowed and finally vanished altogether; at the horizon the land seemed a deep black. Suddenly wild cries by our Bedouin scouts: 'Return to hades, accursed specter! To hades with thee!' A red-yellow, legendary pile loomed up in the distance—Amra Palace wreathed in golden sunshine!

"The colonel was the first to dismount. He had not been ten minutes in the palace when I heard him shout with delight: 'Paintings, real paintings. It is all true, then.'

"We had but one camel among seven of us and only water enough for a day, while the next well was seven hours distance. The Bedouins clamored that we retrace our steps without delay, but having command of their language and being, moreover, on intimate terms with the chief, I succeeded in persuading the frightened natives to stay.

THE PALACE OF AMRA.  
"We remained in Amra two weeks. On the fifteenth day after our arrival on the left, our only camel loaded with scientific and pictorial treasures—several hundred excellent photographs, a map full of drawings and reproductions, a map full of drawings and reproductions, a large section of one of the original paintings cut from the wall, and a characteristic portion of the great mosaics that adorn the palace floors. These trophies of our discovery are now on the way to your Eminence.

"Outwardly the red granite building is bare of all ornamentation, but none the less impressive on account of its magnificent proportions. The main building is a monumental piece of architecture crowned by a cupola, that still shows traces of gilding. It forms one vast apartment, or hall, after the manner of our modern museums, from the ground up, but is divided into three rooms by rows of marble pillars reaching to the roof. Behind this building, and communicating with it, are two smaller and much lower structures, each divided into three compartments, and with a considerable entrance hall looking to the south. The main building has a vast courtyard inclosed by walls. In the south is the well and a large reservoir, connected with the smaller structures, just noticed, by a network of pipes. We saw at once that the story of the wall paintings was no exaggeration. They were plainly enough visible spots, but it was a hard task to remove the layers of dirt and 'patina', particularly as every drop of water had to be brought from the far away well under the protection of darkness. Yet, the colonel, aided with the true artist's ardor, wielded the scrub brush as diligently as discreetly, while I constructed a scaffold, a sort of painter's ladder, which was hung on ropes from the roof.

"By this means we copied about 1,200 square feet of wall paintings after first cleaning them, using lead, carbon, colors and photographic apparatus, especially the latter. We generally managed to work from twelve to sixteen hours per day, though the heat—54 degrees Celsius on the average—was most oppressive during the greater part of our stay. The most beautiful painting is that occupying the center of the south wall, facing the grand portals. It represents a noble-looking white man in Oriental robes, seated on a throne, rich with gold and precious stones. His luxuriant hair and beard are carefully styled, and the grouping of pillars, foliage and flowers framing the whole is most artistically arranged—I might say after the best manner of the Italian school if that were not a rank anachronism.

A STRIKING INSCRIPTION.

"Over and above the head of the figure is an inscription in the Arab tongue which, I am happy to announce to your Eminence, has been completely deciphered. It introduces the majestic white man in the center as the famous Caliph Ahmed, surname of al-Mustain-Billah ('who seeks the help of God'). Furthermore, it states that Ahmed was born A. D. 838 and reigned until 866 (when he abdicated the throne to be murdered a few years later). Ahmed, who was a grandson of Harun-al-Rashid, we further learn, erected this edifice as a pleasure palace, to which he occasionally withdrew to enjoy himself with his intimates 'as recorded on the walls' in a succession of fine paintings. The inscription intimates that Ahmed would deserve the name of the 'magnificent', being the inventor of many luxurious fashions, a patron of art and lavish in the expenditure of money. Finally, it praises the Caliph as a poet and writer of history. The paintings contain a valuable pictorial record of the Caliph's life from the cradle to the grave, with the sole exception of the final tragedy.

"As bathing was one of the chief amusements of the times, much of the wall space is devoted to pictures representing scenes from the bath. Other paintings show the Caliph and his friend at play or while hunting, still others picture him in the midst of his women listening to music and applauding graceful dancers.

"As far as could be ascertained, the paintings are unsigned, but it is not impossible that the name of one or more of the artists may appear on the undeveloped photographic plates. The manner of paintings suggests the Constantinople-Greek school. The whole interior of the building, including the annexes where the baths were located, have floors of polished marble, and the center of each room or compartment is inlaid with mosaics of highly artistic work."

In conclusion the reverend gentleman draws attention to the fact that the discovery of the wall paintings in the Caliph Palace serves as a final refutation of an historical error, viz., that the prophet forbade his followers to make, or paint, images of human and animal life.

"The prophet prohibited only the making and exhibition of idols," says Dr. Musil, and continues: "Records found in Jerusalem prove that he even saved many pictures and statues of Christ and the virgin from destruction. The misinterpretation of certain passages in the Koran that served to retard Oriental art during past centuries, and even to this day was the work of narrow-minded Moslem theologians."

"The Sunday Dinner.  
Minister—These fish, Mrs. Hendrix, are so deliciously fresh. I am enjoying them immensely.  
Little Tommy—Well, they ought to be fresh. Pa caught them only this morning.



## TAUGHT AS A SCIENCE

ART OF PROTECTION AGAINST FIRE  
A BRANCH OF INSTRUCTION.

Unique Plant to Be Erected in Connection with a Technical School—Insurance Engineering.

BOSTON, June 28.—For the first time in this country the prevention of fires by planning the construction of buildings in such a way as to reduce the opportunities for occurrence to a minimum is to be made a regular feature of the training afforded at a college of applied science. When the Massachusetts Institute of Technology opens in the fall the diversity of its courses will include a school or department of insurance engineering under the executive charge of Professor Charles L. Norton. The undertaking has the enthusiastic support and co-operation of Mr. Edward Atkinson, of this city, whose efforts in recent years have practically revolutionized the methods of mill construction and the theories of industrial insurance, and it has appealed so strongly to mill owners, builders, manufacturers and other investors to whom fire is a constant menace that, at Mr. Atkinson's instance, a fund sufficient to place it at once on a substantial money basis with liberal allowances or the necessarily heavy initial expense.

The importance of the movement becomes evident when one realizes that during the past year destruction by fire in the United States amounted to over \$150,000,000. To this sum must be added practically another \$100,000,000 to cover the excess of expense in water works, fire departments, and in the conduct of insurance companies due mainly to the existence of avoidable dangers in our great cities, so that the Nation's total tax, in an average year, is about \$50,000,000 greater than the annual appropriation for the common schools, more than double the sum expended yearly for the support of all the universities, colleges and technical schools in the country, and somewhat above the normal expense of conducting the United States government if we omit the items of interest and pensions. This enormous money loss by fire has been increasing steadily during the last five years, despite every development of fire fighting apparatus and methods and the institute's plan is to reduce to an exact science the art of preventing destructive fires, not only by putting out a blaze as quickly as possible after it has started, but by making it as nearly impossible for it to start as may be practicable.

PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION.

There is, at present, no school where the elemental principles of prevention of loss by fire forms any part of the instruction and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is the first to be the first institution in this country, or in fact anywhere, to supply what would seem a very important addition to modern education. Prof. Norton will start immediately on an extended visit of inspection to the various large cities of the United States with the purpose of examining their buildings and investigating the methods under which they are constructed, consulting prominent insurance men in regard to the apparatus to be used in the new school for experiments with fireproof construction and the scope of the instruction it should give. Unlike most educational plans, the new school will assume an immediate and important practical relation to the business world. The first work of its testing station will be, not only to educating students in methods of fire prevention, but also to classifying and establishing a standard for the so-called fireproofing materials that are now in more or less general use.

The department of insurance engineering will require about an acre of land, and a site is now being selected in the vicinity of Boston, the necessary conditions being that the land shall be so situated that somewhat offensive and possibly dangerous experiments may be conducted without risk to neighboring property, and that a sufficient supply of water may be available without having to make special arrangements with the police, the fire department and the water board before beginning each test. Offices and laboratories will be erected at once, and it is proposed that a certain number of the buildings shall be in themselves examples of the various methods of modern fireproof construction. In this way they will themselves be subject to an endurance test, so to speak, extending over several years. An element of co-operation enters in here, too, for the manufacturers of the various types of fire resistance construction now before the public are offered an opportunity to erect structures embodying their respective theories.

The buildings will be of a uniform size, on a ground plan of sixteen by twenty-two feet, with one post in the middle, so that the relation of the middle beam and walls will correspond to two bays in a factory each twenty-two by eight feet in dimensions. In the rear of each will be a one-story annex in which constant tests will be made to determine ability to resist fire or any other means of its accidental destruction that can be experimentally brought to bear upon it. The annex, used in this way, will also serve to measure the power of the walls of the main structures to resist the heat from a conflagration in an adjoining building. The plan for this novel undertaking includes an office building for housing the finer scientific apparatus to be used in measuring high temperatures, and taking other minute observations while the tests are in progress, and for making plans and working out the scientific results of the experiments, and at least one laboratory, very solidly constructed of fireproof brick, large enough to test fireproof flooring under high temperature and heavy loads similar to those that the same floor might have to sustain in a big fire in a great business block. There will be a place to test fire-proof weathered windows and other devices under the conditions of intense heat, frequently sufficient to melt iron, that would be produced by the actual burning of a building in which they were located; and to produce such extreme temperature in the small compass of a laboratory there will be provided a gas plant, for the ordinary materials, such as cordwood, will not serve the purposes on the smaller scale. The school will be open to the public, and started with wood and then gas will be injected to maintain them at a very high and even temperature.

TO TRAIN EXPERTS.  
Special facilities are planned for determining the efficiency of steel-framed posts and other metal features of up-to-date fireproofing and the value of their protection against deterioration by various concretes, cements, etc. Specimens will be subjected to the varying weather conditions of the New England climate for a considerable period of time to discover the effect of humidity or of the substances with which they are coated upon the metals. Steel, for example, embedded in a suitable concrete with a base of lime, may last 2,000 years, while the same material embedded in some of the concretes now in use is likely to corrode and even be destroyed in less than twenty years. The school will devote attention between the action of modern building materials under the influence of the slowest but least combatable of all destroying agencies, Father Time himself.

Up to the present time this country has been behind England in attempting a thorough and systematic understanding of the actual causes of fires and the best means of preventing them, and the architects and engineers of London have already organized a fire prevention committee to devise safeguards against the dangers that are believed by many experts to lurk in some of the new steel and iron buildings that were hatched only a few years ago as absolutely safe. The United States has indeed several isolated testing stations—notably those in Philadelphia and Chicago—but the report of none of them is to be taken as definitely final. The new School of Insurance Engineering is expected to supply this deficiency and to send out, year after year, several young men whose expert knowledge can accomplish a great saving of human life as well as of property and of money invested. But perhaps the greatest economic value of its "ounce-of-prevention" theory lies in its possibilities for correcting one of the hardships of present-day conditions, under which a property owner may find himself a victim of fire loss by means of an insurance policy which has been proved of thousands of persons may be deprived of their livelihood by the destruction of the buildings in which they are employed.

KING EDWARD'S LETTERS.

The Delivery at the Palace and How It Is Handled.

London Express.  
Though the King's daily movements are fully chronicled in the newspapers, and the "Court Circular," there are many things his Majesty does of which the public has little knowledge. It is a fact that the King, who is employed every morning, covers a multitude of urgent matters, from the writing of an autograph letter to the neighboring sovereign to the selection of a coronation design, and there are, of course, numerous other matters which require the royal signature.

It is not generally known, however, that his Majesty preserves a careful supervision over the answers which are sent to the hundreds of correspondents daily writing to the King. On an average the King's daily letter bag contains about 100 letters, and about half as many newspapers, books, circulars, etc. Needless to say, this gigantic delivery needs the assistance of a body of private clerks, over whom Sir Francis Knollys, the King's private secretary, exercises control.

All letters and parcels, with the exception of those which are quickly recognized as being "personal to his Majesty"—which contain a distinctive private mark, mutually prearranged, on the envelope or otherwise, by the secretaries and distributed in boxes, separately labeled according to their nature and contents. These boxes are then carefully examined and checked by Sir Francis Knollys, and the letters of an urgent character requiring the consideration of his Majesty are retained by the private secretary and are later replied to by him, according to the subject of the letter.

It is surprising—and has often astonished those in receipt of replies—how rapidly an answer is dispatched from the royal residence. Many a letter is sent to the King, who later has been received by Sir Francis Knollys by the first morning delivery, and a reply is made the same night, intimating that the first minister has been "laid before the King." Many letters—those emanating from cranks, faddists and notorious beggars—those making requests for favors (such as a seat in the abbey this month) and those of a purely commercial character—never reach his Majesty's desk, but are either ignored or stereotyped replies are sent, according to the subject of the letter.

This much can be truthfully said: The greatest courtesy and delicacy have always been shown by the King in the handling of correspondence, and many instances could be quoted where his secretary has gone out of his way to do so. The King's private secretary, Sir Francis Knollys, is a man of great tact and discretion, and his Majesty's reluctance at being unable to comply with requests is a matter of course. The King's private secretary, Sir Francis Knollys, is a man of great tact and discretion, and his Majesty's reluctance at being unable to comply with requests is a matter of course.

According to my text, every nation holds a divine commission and has a definite task assigned to it. This was a very broad and liberal announcement from one who had been reared under the notion that the Jews alone were the "peculiar people" of God. The apostle brushed away the barriers of that orthodox conceit by allowing all that earth and races and individuals to think the same of themselves. When rightly understood the grand Christian doctrine of election and predestination declare the decisive part which God has in the direction and unfolding of the forms and fortunes of humanity. They draw our attention to the astounding fact that history is not a wild and capricious stream, but river of God, its course foreseen, its tributaries provided, its ever-expanding currents assured and prearranged by Him who sitteth upon the circle of the heavens.

Washington, Lincoln, McKinley mark the summit ranges of our contact with the constantly unfolding purposes of God. What a thrilling story it is; and if written in the style and spirit of the ancient Hebrew Scriptures how truthfully could we exclaim with the Psalmist: "He hath not dealt with any nation under heaven." And the climax is still before us. This Nation is the same nation it was in the days of Washington. It has experienced at least two conversions, one during the terrible civil war, and the other in the recent conflict with Spain. Each resulted in the outpouring of a larger spirit than could have been imagined at the outset. Not only has the sense of nationality outgrown and overwhelmed the original ideas of its founders, but there is a process now going on under the guidance of public sentiment which indicates a still larger providential purpose playing through the political instincts of the American people.

POLITICAL OPTIMISTS.

The citizens of this country never felt themselves so much the ministers of God, so full of a power greater than themselves, as now. They are a profoundly religious people in the sense of believing their gov-

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TOMORROW is the last day of our Midsummer Stock-taking Sale—now for a final effort to get stocks down to right figures. Prices have been sharply reduced in every one of our fifty great departments to accomplish this—the following represent thousands of like values all over the store—don't miss to-morrow's sale, it's

One of the Great Bargain Opportunities of the Season

### Two SEASONABLE SILK SPECIALS

On Center Silk Counter  
These two items are at about half ordinary prices. The June Clearing Sale makes them so.

Fancy satin-printed Foulards, 19 in. wide, good styles, in the season's choicest colorings; some of them copies of \$1 and \$1.25 kinds; about 20 pieces in the lot; in the Twilled India Silks in a large variety of designs and colorings, 24 in. wide, and all pure silk; this lot to sell at a yard.....35c  
—West Aisle.

### THE BONNIE KILT WALKING SKIRTS

Special in June Clearing Sale  
A large purchase of cloth by the manufacturer makes it possible for us to offer these skirts, made in the newest styles, at about A THIRD less than their real value. In two shades of blue, two of gray and Oxford. Very special in this sale, at \$5.50 each.....  
—Second Floor.

### HOSIERY Clean-Ups

Odd styles of women's black lace Hosiery, not all sizes in any one pattern, but nearly all sizes in the combined lot; also the balance of our Little Hosiery, choice Monday, a pair.....35c  
Children's fine-ribbed Cotton Hosiery, mostly 6 and 8 sizes, special to close, at a 12 1/2c pair.....  
—East Aisle.

### BLACK DRESS WASH GOODS

Clearing Sale Bargains  
48-in. all-wool Storm Serge; in the clearing sale, a yard.....59c  
2-in. Twine Cloth and Camel's-hair Diagonals; in the clearing sale, a yard.....85c  
12-oz. bluish flannel for lined walking skirts; in the clearing sale, a yard.....\$1.50  
2-in. pure Mohair Roxanas, richer than silk; the price a yard.....\$1.75  
—West Aisle.

### Fine WASH GOODS

Great Reductions  
24-in. Egyptian Tissues, our 55c line, in stripes and plain colors, 12 1/2c reduced to a yard.....  
24-in. Linen Batiste, in the natural color; regular 35c quality, reduced to a yard.....25c  
48-in. Silk and Linen Tissue, in the natural color; regular 60c kind, reduced to a yard.....50c  
Merced Cotton Grenadines in light blue, linen color, Nile green and white with black; were 65c; 49c reduced to a yard.....  
—West Aisle.

### Men's Furnishings

Final Clearing Sale  
Clean-up of Men's Shirts that were 95c to \$1.50, Monday at 30c each.....  
Men's Madras Shirts, odd sizes of 36 kinds reduced to, each.....39c  
Men's Balbriggan Undershirts, 36 kinds at a garment.....25c  
A clean-up of Men's fancy trimmed Nightshirts, choice.....69c  
—East Aisle.

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19c a Copy  
—South Balcony.

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## THE VOICE OF THE PULPIT

NATIONAL PROGRESS: AN INDEPENDENCE DAY DISCOURSE

By Rev. Andrew J. Canfield, D. D., Pastor Church of Our Father (Universalist), Brooklyn, N. Y.

"And hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth; and hath determined the times before appointed; and the bounds of their habitation."—Acts xvii, 26.

The proper observance of Independence day should include a review of the providential government of nations, and especially the evidences of divine purpose manifested in the foundation and progress of our own Nation through its great men and mighty achievements.

According to my text, every nation holds a divine commission and has a definite task assigned to it. This was a very broad and liberal announcement from one who had been reared under the notion that the Jews alone were the "peculiar people" of God. The apostle brushed away the barriers of that orthodox conceit by allowing all that earth and races and individuals to think the same of themselves. When rightly understood the grand Christian doctrine of election and predestination declare the decisive part which God has in the direction and unfolding of the forms and fortunes of humanity. They draw our attention to the astounding fact that history is not a wild and capricious stream, but river of God, its course foreseen, its tributaries provided, its ever-expanding currents assured and prearranged by Him who sitteth upon the circle of the heavens.

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## THE VOICE OF THE PULPIT

ernment to be the special object of the protecting care of providence. Every genuine American whatever his theological opinions may be, is a political optimist. He has seen the Republic more than once escape from surrounding perils which afflicted the stoutest hearts. Experience has given him unbounded confidence that the right leaders will surely appear whenever emergencies require them. Therefore no circumstance or condition is considered entirely hopeless.

The country has been "saved" so often that its people have an almost superstitious credulity concerning the power of science and invention to overcome all present evils and satisfy every reasonable desire. Whoever abandons this present world to the devil or hisimps can have no data for believing that any other world will belong to God. The man or nation that acquiesces in this world's selfishness and injustice must throw up his brief for the hope beyond. If we are to preserve our faith in God we must strive diligently for the betterment of all human relations here and now—social, political and economical.

Such is the heart of American religion. We believe in progress, if in no other god. But every religion should have its creed; every temple of faith its Pantheon of enthroned divinity. Where, then, shall we look for our national creed and Pantheon? We are so young and constantly "improving" property that building one venerable would not punctuate time in the old world.

Westminster Abbey, the cathedral at Pisa, and, above all, the Pantheon at Rome, are memorable. But we have in this country something finer and more suggestive than any of these. I refer to the new Congressional Library at Washington. The exterior of the building is 415 feet long, 340 feet wide, and it occupies, exclusive of approaches, three and three-quarter acres. The rotunda is over 100 feet in diameter and nearly 200 feet in height. The spaces well occupied and ornamented with statues, paintings and inscriptions by American artists and artisans. It is to serve as the repository of our Nation's achieving thoughts and aspiring hopes for centuries to come.

The Roman Pantheon has eight shelves or niches for the mythical gods, but the Pantheon of Congress has eleven shelves of heroic size representing characteristic features of civilized life and thought. They are notable figures, each eleven feet high, and standing fifty-eight feet above the floor. The names of the figures are Religion, Commerce, History, Art, Philosophy, Poetry, Law and Science. Each has an appropriate inscription, which was selected by President Eliot of Harvard University.

RELIGION'S FLOWER.

Religion holds a flower in her hand. The inscription is, "What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God?" Commerce, crowned with a wreath of the peaceful olive, holds in her right hand a model of a Yankee schooner, and in her left a miniature locomotive. The inscription is, "We taste the spices of Arabia, yet never feel the scorching sun which brings them

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forth." History has a book in her hand and holds up a handglass, so that it will reflect things behind her. This motto is taken from Tennyson:

"One God, one law, one element,  
And one far-off divine event  
To which the whole creation moves."

Art is crowned with laurel and bears a model of the Parthenon of Athens. The inscription is from Lowell: "As one lamp lights another, nor grows less, so nobleness enkindleth nobleness." Philosophy is a grave figure with downcast eyes, carrying a book in her hand. Its inscription is from Bacon: "The inquiry, knowledge, and belief of truth is the sovereign good of human nature." Poetry has for a motto a sentence by Milton:

"Hither, as to their townstair, men came,  
Repairing, in their golden urns drew light."  
Above the figure of Law are Hooker's words: "Of law there can be no less acknowledged than that her voice is the harmony of the world." Science is peering with searching gaze on all things, and holds a handglass, not like that of History, but held forward, so that all may perceive the image of Truth. The choice of its inscription must have been very perplexing. After searching long these words from the Psalmist were selected: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handiwork." I call your attention to the fact that the two most difficult inscriptions, that of Religion and that of Science, were taken from the Bible.

Here, then, we have a magnificent structure, emblematic of the whole circle of our national ideals; its alcoves and corridors reserved for no heathen divinities or doctrines, but for the living thoughts of living men. May it stand forever as the symbol of a state and society in which the reformers of coming ages may work, each removing some obstruction, adding some smooth stone, or bringing some image of beauty to grace its niches and adorn its spires till at last it shall stand in the light of heaven, the model temple of the world. Let us strive in the willingness of our great patriots to realize the hope that these few spirits of mankind at length shall throw its last fetters off.